

# Briefly Told

"The kind of Navy we want," said one Western member of the Canadian Parliament, "is more box cars for our wheat."

Hiram is not the first Johnson to aspire to the White House. A Johnson, named Andrew, once arrived there.

William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, was of Jewish extraction on his mother's side, says Harold Begbie, the General's official biographer.

Chicago had grown to be a city of 2,000,000 people before the first white child born there was dead.

Twenty new names are to be selected this year for the National Hall of Fame. The selection will be made by 102 electors. Already 111 names have been proposed. Two nominations already rejected are Hiawatha and Barbara Frietche. Women's clubs are strongly urging the latter, but the electors assert that she is only a literary character.

In 1790 the United States consumed 29,000,000 pounds of tobacco. There will be available this year 914,000,000 pounds. Per capita consumption has risen from two pounds annually at the time of the Civil War to eight pounds at present.

Masonic membership in the United States numbers 2,086,808.

The day of tall buildings is about to dawn for London. "The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street," as the Bank of England is called, will be rebuilt as a structure of many stories.

France has made a list of 197 prohibited imports, among which are automobiles, artificial hair, precious stones and movie films.

The first step toward putting down the revolution in Hungary was taken by prohibiting the sale of liquor. Red liquor and red flags are said to have an affinity.

It is proposed by some half-serious joker in the British House of Commons that since the United States Congress has "resolved" that England should free Ireland, the House of Commons should in turn "resolve" that the United States should free the Philippines.

**Bud Fisher.**—Success is accumulating eleven million dollars and retiring, or it is earning thirty dollars a week, or raising nine children, or breeding the fastest horse in the world, or being elected alderman, or getting your name in electric lights on Broadway. Success consists of getting what you go after.

**Minnie Maddern Fiske.**—My own debut as a comedienne was made unintentionally. At the age of three I was cast for the part of the crowned child who rises from the witches' caldron in Macbeth to make the prophecy about Great Birnam Wood. The lines are "Be lion-mettled, proud, and take no care, who frets, or where conspirers are." Unfortunately instead of "conspirers," I besought Macbeth, in the person of Barry Sullivan, to be indifferent to "perspirers," to the great delight of the audience and almost to the undoing of Mr. Sullivan, who had difficulty in finishing the scene. The comedy introduced into this part was, I scarcely need say, entirely unintentional on my part, although unconsciously it may have been the first sprouting of my comedy wings.

**J. L. McNeil,** wholesale grocer.—There is no immediate relief for the sugar crisis in sight. Whoever made the statement that sugar would probably go back to 12 or 14 cents in July has absolutely no justification for it.

**Governor Henry J. Allen.**—I believe that God Almighty intends that the American republic shall lead the world, and not because of any international society we may join, but because of the success we may have in the experiment of government in the United States of America.

**Edwin T. Meredith.**—America ought to be arrested for indecent exposure of the bank roll. The purchasing public staggering from counter to counter and brightening the profiteering corners where they are, is as naive as a schoolgirl with her first pink hair ribbon. The gold brick collector, in his trusting innocence, is a hardened cynic alongside the average citizen of today with his nervous fingers and his 24-hour service pockets.

**Caroline Stratton Parker,** novelist.—Human beings have been on earth about 500,000 years and in the last 150 years their environment has changed more than the previous 499,850.

The term which more and more designates the "flying fields" or "aviation fields" of the world is "air ground."

So ravenous are mackerel when first raised that it is not unusual for one man by line fishing to catch a barrel of them in 20 minutes.

The high postage charged in the aerial service between London and Paris is threatening the success of the service.

One of the pathetic notes found in all the correspondence relating to present conditions in Germany is that frequently authentic news exists which would make certain disorders unnecessary, but the people have been so long fed on lies that they no longer know what to believe. Each community seems to depend on its own judgment, and that judgment is frequently influenced by fear. The distrust of news is very serious the world over. It breaks the line of communication between the people.

The "Watch on the Rhine" is now composed as follows: French troops, 95,000; Belgian troops, 20,000; American troops, 16,000; British troops, 14,000.

Six to seven hundred years is the average life of Brazilian coconut palm trees.

At the ninth conference of the Russian Communist party, held at Moscow early in April, the Order of the Red Flag was mockingly conferred on Clemenceau and Winston Churchill "in recognition of their great services to the international revolution."

A dog tax of \$25 has been made by the Berlin government. Dogs used to lead the blind are exempt, unless the blind person is in possession of an unusual income. Cats also would be taxed if there were enough in Berlin to make it worth while, but Germans have always regarded the cat as unhygienic and it is rarely met in German homes.

The colossal wooden statue of Hindenburg, which was studded with nails at so much per, was sold to a dealer in curios. It has now been temporarily confiscated by the police to prevent its being used as an emblem in political disorder.

During the war every child in the country was busy gathering old paper and other waste materials. Now that the paper shortage is more acute than ever, it is rarely that one ever hears of paper salvage.

When the British Government was suffering for sewing machines because it had turned its sewing machine factories into munition mills, a German citizen living in London obtained two shiploads of German sewing machines to make uniforms for the British Tommy. How he did it is one of the "secrets" of the war. Many Londoners daily demanded the internment of this German and could never understand why the government was so lenient with him.

Max Hoeltz, Red leader of Saxon Vogiland, was formerly a "lecturer" in a movie theater.

Thousands of cattle in Alberta were saved from death by starvation by huge shipments of hay from Ontario and Quebec.

Prohibition literature is flooding Scotland, preceding an election with the banishment of the bar as the most important issue.

The first pipe line to be built in Europe, except one in the Rumanian oil fields, will be constructed between Havre and Paris to relieve railway congestion in the transportation of oil. The builders are Americans.

A great surplus of men over women exists in this country while in France the situation is reversed.

"Lovy mine, don't dawdle, make up your mind; it's far too serious. Sweetheart, you need wify behind, pushing you," is a sentiment which occurs frequently in the Czarina's war letters to the Czar.

A "sugar from sawdust" experiment is being carried on by scientists in Toronto, Canada.

"I am always glad to receive an American," President Ebert, of Germany, said in an interview, "and that despite the fact that your country administered the hardest blow we suffered during the war. But one thing our children are going to remember is that, even before the peace was signed, America began supplying us with food."

## Many Men of Many Minds

**Charles Piez,** Emergency Fleet Corporation.—A New York statistician has predicted that there will be a panic in May. I venture to predict that the prediction will not come true. We should be cautious but not afraid. There is a good deal of red in the political horizon but it is only the glow that precedes the setting of the political sun. There are troubles ahead but some are of our own making.

**Harry E. Child,** ranch owner.—Out in God's country among the glorious mountains and the vast plains, we place more importance upon men than we do upon money. We may not make any great mark in the world; but, by heavens, we don't let the world make its mark on us! We live and let live.

**Gilbert M. Hitchcock.**—I do not believe that American public opinion will support our taking the mandate for Armenia. The boundaries of Armenia have not yet been defined, and when they are it is probable that large Turkish areas will be included. If that happens, conflicts between the Armenians and Turkey would be inevitable and we would be involved. It might not be much of a war, but it would require some military effort on our part.

**Frank H. Simonds.**—What has arrived is nothing new. It is the last phase in every world conflict—in every general war. Victory attained, the immediate menace eliminated, the common peril abolished, the several allies find themselves no longer united in a common cause.

**War Correspondent Sees Possible Alliance Collapse**—Germany remains a peril to France and Belgium; but Germany without a fleet is not a menace to Britain or to America. The result is the threatened dispersion of the alliance in almost the same fashion as the alliance which conquered Napoleon collapsed a century ago.

**Amos Pinchot.**—There never was a time when the country needed new leadership as it does today. There was never a time when the necessity for serious non-partisan effort was so poignantly apparent. With the world burning and people, not so very far away, perishing by the thousands and hundred thousands from civil war, hunger and disease, the words of the old Puritan come back to us. "Today at least we are alive; let us all take hands and help."

**N. W. Rowell,** president Canadian privy council.—In the past Canadian public opinion has demanded that our governments concern themselves almost exclusively with our own domestic problems. The war has changed all this. It has shown that no one nation can live unto itself, that that which vitally affects one ultimately affects all.

**Representative H. W. Sumners.**—I am glad, and so are the Southern people glad, that the institution of slavery is gone. The price of its riddance was terrible but that price was not too great to rid ourselves of that thing which was destroying the superstructure and the very foundation of our civilization.

**Texas Congressman Praises United National Sentiment**—Wonderful history of a wonderful people! Here, I, the son of a Confederate soldier, stand in my place in the Federal Congress. About me are my colleagues from the South, practically all of whom are sons of Confederate soldiers, and now, in very truth and very fact, without reservation or qualification, we hold all that we have, every drop of our blood, dedicated to that flag, glorious emblem of a united people. We, my brethren, North and South by this achievement write a new chapter in the history of the world.

**Meredith Nicholson.**—The year will be marked by political conflict. In the fury of controversy it will be said that if one or another leader is victorious America will perish. But a nation created and preserved by the wisdom and devotion of countless far-seeing, liberty-loving men and women is not so easily to be destroyed.

**Senator Charles S. Thomas.**—I do not believe in profiteering. I want to see the government punish every man who makes inordinate profit at this time. He ought to be punished, and I care not in what station in life he may be found; I care not what the extent of his profiteering may be, whether it is \$10 or \$10,000,000; I would like to see it stopped, but surely we ought to reflect—we must ultimately perceive, if we do not reflect at this time—that we are fighting conditions instead of causes and acting very largely like a child who stumbles over a chair and turns around and kicks the chair in his impotent rage as the proximate cause of his injury.

**W. B. Hinsdale,** university dean.—The old-fashioned family doctor is about through and must pass if modern medical men have their way.